



Stephen H. Johnson, Acting Director

July 2010

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## Tell Your Colleagues About the *Daily Digest*!



Are you and your friends signed up for OED's *Daily Digest*? Compiled from over 50 news sources, the OED [Daily Digest](#) is the best way to keep up with the latest in business, technology, workforce, industry, real estate, and economic development news in Seattle.

## NEWS & INFORMATION

### Inspector General Report says NOAA should have considered existing federal facilities before deciding to move from Seattle to Newport, OR



At the end of June, The Department of Commerce Inspector General confirmed that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s solicitation process was legitimate, but agrees with Senator Cantwell, Congressman McDermott, and the City of Seattle that NOAA should have first considered existing federal facilities, and that choosing an existing federal facility could have saved taxpayer dollars. On Thursday, July 8th, Mayor Mike McGinn joined with Congressman Jim McDermott, City Councilmembers Jean Godden and Nick Licata, Todd Pacific Shipyards' John Lockwood, King County Labor Council's Executive Secretary David Freiboth, Office of the Governor's Director of External Affairs Marty Loesch, and other industry leaders to urge U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke to intervene and seriously consider the use of existing federal facilities in Seattle for NOAA's Marine Operations Center-Pacific homeport in light of the Department of Commerce's Inspector General Report.

- [Read the full press release here](#)
- [Read the joint letter here](#)
- [Read coverage from West Seattle Blog here](#)
- [Read coverage from The Seattle Times here](#)
- [Read the Department of Commerce's Inspector General Report here](#)



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## City's Office of Economic Development announces investments in business districts to beautify, attract shoppers



On July 15th, the Office of Economic Development (OED) announced more than \$160,000 in investments in neighborhood business districts at a celebration with Deputy Mayor Darryl Smith and business district organization leaders at the Wing Luke Asian Museum. The 2010 Neighborhood Business District awards will be used for a variety of projects designed to help small businesses thrive in Seattle, including organizational development projects, beautification and branding with light pole banners and signal box art, and a new, multi-neighborhood buy local marketing effort that will increase shoppers' awareness of local businesses across the city.

- [View the full press release](#)

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## "Job Sector Survey" calls for input from King County employers



This first-ever "Job Sector Survey" aims to collect measurable data about the sentiments, challenges and aspirations of as many King County employers as possible. Your response will help inform business leaders, elected officials, policy makers and key community stakeholders as they make decisions that could impact businesses and the local economy. The deadline to submit responses is August 6th. Results will be broken down by industry sector, geographic area and company size. Partners working on the project include local and regional business organizations, as well as the Prosperity Partnership, King County, Seattle's Office of Economic Development, the Washington Research Council and enterpriseSeattle. For more information about the Job Sector Surveys project, please contact [George Allen](#) at the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce at (206) 389-7268.

- [Take the survey](#)
- [View more information about this survey](#)

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## Columbia City Farmers Market ranks among America's best farmers' markets for travelers



For a great urban market, Nina Planck, author of "Real Food: What to Eat and Why" and founder of London Farmers' Markets, recommends Columbia City Farmers Market. With more than 40 Washington state farmers

and small food vendors, travelers are bound to find something to take back with them.

- [Read the CNW coverage](#)
- [Learn more about the Columbia City Farmers Market](#)
- [Learn more about OED's work with local farmers markets](#)

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### University of Washington says its annual economic impact is \$9.1 billion



The University of Washington has a \$9.1 billion annual economic impact on the state of Washington, according to a new report prepared by a Pittsburgh consulting firm. The report covers how University of Washington spending supports the state economy, the jobs that the UW generates, the impacts of the school's research, how it supports students, alumni, and community, how they prepare students to succeed in a global economy, and much more. The study explains that for every dollar invested by the state, the UW generates \$22.56 in the total state economy. The report was prepared by Trpp Umbach, a nationally recognized consulting firm.

- [Read the Economic Impact Report](#)
- [Read the Puget Sound Business Journal's coverage of the study](#)
- [Read the Seattle Times' coverage of the study](#)

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### Respond to the Seattle Nightlife Initiative survey



On July 13th, Mayor Mike McGinn announced the Seattle Nightlife Initiative. The Seattle Nightlife Initiative is a comprehensive approach to managing Seattle's nighttime economy. Its three critical goals are increasing public safety, growing the local economy and improving urban vibrancy. It aims to ensure that neighborhoods are livable, support a vibrant nightlife industry and leverage the economic contribution that nightlife brings to the city. Your feedback will be essential as the goals of the Initiative are implemented. Hopes are high for continued community participation with these proposals, and we encourage all of you to take the Seattle Nightlife Initiative survey.

- [Read more about the Seattle Nightlife Initiative](#)
- [Take the survey](#)

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### **The City of Seattle launches "Engage Seattle," a civic engagement initiative for the community**



On July 27th, Mayor Mike McGinn launched Engage Seattle, a community initiative to build strong connections between local government and community members. Mayor McGinn, Deputy Mayor for Community Darryl Smith, Volunteer Intake Coordinator Sol Villarreal, and Chief Service Officer Lynda Petersen presented Engage Seattle.

- [Watch the launch of Engage Seattle](#)
- [Read news coverage from the \*National Association of Asian American Professionals\*](#)

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Mingle and connect at our eighth City Business Casual - August 26th**



The Office of Economic Development and the City of Seattle are excited to connect directly with the local business community via our City Business Casual series. These monthly, informal gatherings provide the Seattle business community with regular, direct access to business-focused city officials, including influential city leaders and key department heads and representatives. The next City Business Casual will take place on Thursday, August 26th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Polar Bar (700 3rd Avenue) in downtown Seattle. Special guests will be Councilmember Tom Rasmussen and City Light Superintendent Jorge Carrasco. No pre-registration for City Business Casual is necessary. The sessions do not include a formal program, but Office of Economic Development staff will actively make introductions and connections. Business owners and advocates will also have a chance to ask questions, suggest ideas, and troubleshoot specific issues in an informal and relaxed setting.

- [Learn more about this monthly event](#)

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#### **Multicultural business community is the hot topic for Multicultural Biz Wiz Conference - Sept. 9th**



The Multicultural Biz Wiz Conference, on September 9th, is the place to learn about small business resources and effective cross-cultural communications, while networking with other small businesses and leaders in our business community. The deadline to register is August 27th. OED Acting Director Steve

Johnson; Mayor of Bellevue Don Davidson; Javier Palmera, the Executive Producer at KUNS TV, the Univision affiliate in Seattle; Amrita Srivastava, the founder and principal lawyer of Auxilium Lawand; and Assunta Ng, the founder and publisher of the Seattle Chinese Post and Northwest Asian Weekly; are just a few of the speakers at this conference. Sponsors of the event include Opening Latino Doors, Sea Beez, the City's Office of Economic Development, and Washington CASH.

- [Learn more about the Multicultural Biz Wiz Conference](#)
- [Register to attend](#)

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### Watch the July release of "City Inside/Out: Council Edition"



July's "City Inside/Out: Council Edition" gives Seattle residents a chance to join host C.R. Douglas as he sits down with Councilmembers Sally Clark, Tim Burgess and Sally Bagshaw to discuss city issues. "City Inside/Out: Council Edition" premieres the fourth Wednesday of every month, and features a conversation about the issues with three Seattle City Councilmembers. Seattle Channel viewers are invited to take part in the conversation by sending email to [contact@seattlechannel.org](mailto:contact@seattlechannel.org). As "City Inside/Out: Council Edition" tapes a few days in advance of its premiere, be sure to submit your questions and comments early so that they are included in the upcoming August edition!

- [Submit a question online or watch old episodes of "City Inside/Out: Council Edition"](#)



Send submissions, questions, or comments to [oed@seattle.gov](mailto:oed@seattle.gov).